

MICHIGAN HOMES FOR VETERANS
Board of Managers Minutes
July 10, 2014

The 1404th meeting of the Board of Managers of the Michigan Home for Veterans was called to order at 1:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans by Manager Wilseck, Chair.

PRESENT: Managers:

Mary Wilseck, Chair	(AMVETS)
Gerald Cool, Chair pro tem	(DAV)
Robert Johnson, Secretary	(The American Legion)
Ernest Meyers, Sr., Member	(VFW)
James Ausdemore, Member	(Independent)
Lino B. Pretto	(Independent)
Marita Okerstrum, Member	(Independent)

GUESTS: Chic LaFave, Gloria LaFave, Bob Johnson

Also present at the meeting: Sara Dunne, Administrator of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, Jim Dunn, Deputy Director, MVAA, Tina Lynch, Director of Nursing, DJJHV; Dr. Laurence Skendzel, Medical Director, DJJHV; Ann Barsch, Administrative Assistant, DJJHV; Mike Harrington, Physical Plant Supervisor, DJJHV; Sean Depuydt, Member Finance Analyst, DJJHV; and Linda Smith, Assistant Clerk of the Board.

The invocation was given by Ardy Johnson.

OPENING CEREMONY: Pledge of Allegiance.

This meeting has been posted pursuant to Act 267 of the Public Act of 1976 – The Open Meeting Act – on the bulletin board in the corridor adjacent to the volunteer office, main building, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. A notice of this meeting was also posted in the lobby of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Pretto to approve the minutes (as amended) of the meeting held by the Board of Managers on June 18, 2014. Motion carried.

III. ASSESSMENT, REASSESSMENTS AND ADMISSIONS AND POPULATION REPORT– MARQUETTE

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Assessments, Reassessments and Admission and Population Report as presented, supported by Manager Ausdemore, motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL ISSUES – MARQUETTE

A. Board Funds

Motion was made by Manager Meyers to accept the In-House Funds and Cash Donations report as presented, supported by Manager Cool, motion carried.

B. State Funds

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Revenue and Expenditures report as presented, supported by Manager Pretto, motion carried.

Deficit of \$450,000 but are assured the funds are covered.

V. COMMANDANT'S REPORT – MARQUETTE

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Administrator's Report as written subject to comments, supported by Manager Ausdemore, motion carried.

Tina Lynch:

Because our census has been down due to many deaths and discharges, our budget will reflect this decrease in revenue.

We are happy though to report that many of our discharges have been receiving rehab services and going home, but we are still getting applications and have been busy admitting new members.

VI. DIVISION REPORTS

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Division Reports as presented, supported by Manager Ausdemore, motion carried.

Nursing Division – Tina Lynch:

We have been doing a lot of very unusual admissions lately and the units have been very good about it. Several admissions have had very short notices and have had arrival times late in the day. We continue to have people move around in our RN supervisory groups and we still have a couple of positions to fill, but we're continuing to work with that.

Building Activities - Mike Harrington:

Construction projects are going well. We are making good progress and the changes are noticeable in the courtyard, family room, employee lounge, canteen, and chapel entrance.

West wing – about three weeks behind schedule due to subcontractors and suppliers, but almost complete.

Front lobby and administrative wing continuing with progress as well as the heated sidewalks and we are looking at the end of September for completion of all projects.

Mike will send pictures to all board members before August 1st.

Finance - Sean Depuydt:

Working with the VA to maximize benefits for our members and also focusing on those members who are rated at less than 70% to receive a higher rated benefit from the VA.

Meeting with Iron Mountain VA staff to work on interpersonal relationships.

Notifying VA immediately for 70-100% members who need external care (i.e. Marquette General).

Medical - Dr. Skendzel:

Advanced Care Planning – opportunity to work with UP Health Plan. Driving toward a positive outcome even at the end of life. We are working on a structured program to try to encourage members and families to have this discussion and once these decisions are made, there's less stress for the member and family. We are hoping to train a few more people to assist with the planning.

VII. ASSESSMENTS, REASSESSMENTS AND ADMISSIONS – GRAND RAPIDS

Assessment & Population Report – Applications for Membership were reviewed. Motion was made by Manager Cool, to accept the Assessment and Population Report as presented, supported by Manager Johnson, motion carried.

VIII. FINANCIAL ISSUES – GRAND RAPIDS

- a. Board Funds – Status Report of the In-House Funds, Statement of changes in Fund Balances and Cash Donations were reviewed. Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Ausdemore, to receive and file the reports as presented, motion carried.
- b. State Funds – The Revenue and Expenditure Report was reviewed. Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Johnson, to receive and file the Revenue & Expenditure Report as presented, motion carried.

IX. ADMINISTRATOR/DIVISION REPORT – GRAND RAPIDS

Motion was made by Manager Cool, to approve the Commandant Report as presented, supported by Manager Johnson, motion carried.

Administrator, Sara Dunne reported:

Started 6 week cycle summer menu due to a lot of new programming and have included member input which has been a positive experience.

In August will be implementing a meet and greet with people involved with Veteran's issues in the Grand Rapids area. Trying to be more community focused.

VA was not billing correctly (Pharmacy Sharing Agreement) and is going to credit the Home – projecting possibly between \$150,000 and \$175,000.

New issue with denials at the Home (domiciliary). Meet the VA requirements, but with the VA per diem program, homeless veterans don't qualify unless they have medical qualifications.

Road in front of the home (Monroe) is completely being redone.

Census has increased from 92 to 93 percent occupancy. More discharges than deaths. Many of the members have been discharged to more of an assisted living or less restrictive environment.

We also need to report if veterans have applied and we refer them to a less restrictive environment.

Tiffany worked 70 hours when we had the Freedom Cruise. It raised money that we will be applying to our band shell refurbishment. She had worked tirelessly at increasing the community awareness.

Fishing Derby
Carnival – July 26th - 11-3

Employee Gerald Thomas will be retiring at the end of this month after 32 years. This position is in the process of getting posted.

Bob Porter is also retiring at the end of the month and the new employee who fills this position will report to Eric.

No Member Dies Alone program has been very well received. Continuing in-service training to increase involvement.

Working with members and families on end of life.

Home Depot renovations are coming along well.

X. DIVISION REPORTS

Motion was made by Manager Cool, supported by Manager Johnson to approve the Division Report as presented, motion carried.

XI. MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY UPDATE

Motion was made by Manager Cool to accept the Department of Veterans Affairs Update as reported, supported by Manager Johnson, motion carried.

Reported by Jim Dunn.

Thank you to Marita for taking the role of board member.

EMR – Final RFP going out for bid. This would not have happened if the Board had not been involved.

Thank you to the Jacobetti staff.

Finances

Budget is coming to end Sept 30. FY 15 budget is in place. The decline in the census has affected both homes. Out of the last 25 years, there have been

shortages in 24 of them. The shortages will cause us to look at our business model and encourage the board to become more active in the financial aspect. Ombudsman scenario in Grand Rapids has made a difference. Supplementals is a way of business for the Homes.

We need to address capital projects.

4th floor renovations in Grand Rapids Home.

Public Involvement

Periodically have training in the homes and the Board is welcome to attend. If you have any training recommendations, please present them.

Jim will be sending copies of correspondence to the Board that is received on a regular basis regarding vague complaints, etc. Again, the ombudsman works well in these instances.

Ernie:

Monument – Jim will ask them back to demonstrate their funding plan.

Marketing – Do we need to energize some funds for marketing? Advertising?

XII. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S UPDATE

Jim Dunn reported.

Hospice contract reviewed and raised an issue.

Olmstead Act documentation.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Marquette

Chic LaFave

Cemetery project. We do not have any state or federal cemeteries in the Upper Peninsula. Resolution created. Room at the Sawyer Airport that can be used for the maintenance facilities. We have 27,000 veterans over the age of 65. VFW State of Michigan agreed that it should be in Marquette County and it has been sent to the national level. Would like assistance from the service organizations to promote the cemetery in Marquette County.

Jim Dunn: The VA allocates funding based on population. They have made modifications recently and may be in a better position to help with funding in more rural areas. We don't have state resources, but we are willing to assist and support wherever possible.

Bob Johnson will set up a meeting.

Grand Rapids

BP-026 Prohibition of Medical Marijuana

Statement regarding additional policies. Will send to Assistant Attorney General for review.

Bob Johnson – We talked last month about moving meetings to areas around the state.

November 7th – Vietnam Veterans parade in Detroit – could we coincide a meeting with that event?

Bob Johnson made a motion to move the November meeting to November 7th to coincide with the Vietnam Veterans parade in southeast Michigan location to be determined, supported by Manager Meyers. Motion carried.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Grand Rapids - None

MARQUETTE – None

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

Lino Pretto - Consider reviewing the domiciliary units and the role that they play.

Sara Dunne is working with other nursing homes and reviewing their policies on domiciliary care. Sara will continue researching and will update at a later time.

Tina Lynch and Sean Depuydt– Thank you to the Board for their support on the EMR. For us to be able to choose will have a significant impact on the Homes.

Bob Johnson (guest) – Thank you for the opportunity to attend the meeting and it has been eye opening.

Gerald Cool – Good meeting.

Sara Dunne – Appreciate your support and help with our unique challenges.

Lino Pretto – Good meeting.

Jim Dunn – Greenbelt Lean Program – looks at policies and streamlines them to save money and solve problems. Quality Assurance Process Improvement. Our department is trying to improve our service to our members by educating our employees.

Bob Johnson – Both homes are doing a wonderful job.

Recently heard about a writing program potentially available with a professor from Traverse City to assist veterans who have PTSD. Will look into further and present at a later date.

Marita Okerstrum – Thanks to everyone for the warm welcome and had a great tour of the facility.

Ernie Meyers – Mike Harrington does a great job with the Jacobetti Home.

Jim Ausdemore – Reiterates what Ernie said about the Jacobetti Home.

Mary Wilseck – October meeting is October 16th. The volunteer banquet will be the same day.

Thank all the staff from Marquette for a good report. Welcome to the new employees.

Thank you Sara Dunne for all the information and reporting.

XVI. CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

Closing prayer was given by Jim Ausdemore.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

XVII. DATES OF MEETINGS


1. *No Meeting August 2014.*
2. Thursday, September 18, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.
3. Thursday, October 16, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.
4. Friday, November 7, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at "To Be Determined."

5. Wednesday, December 10, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

THESE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN POSTED PURSUANT TO ACT 267 OF THE PUBLIC ACT AS OF 1976 – THE OPEN MEETING ACT.

Linda K. Smith, Assistant Clerk of the Board

Approved by:



Robert Johnson, Secretary Board of Managers

9/18/2014

Date